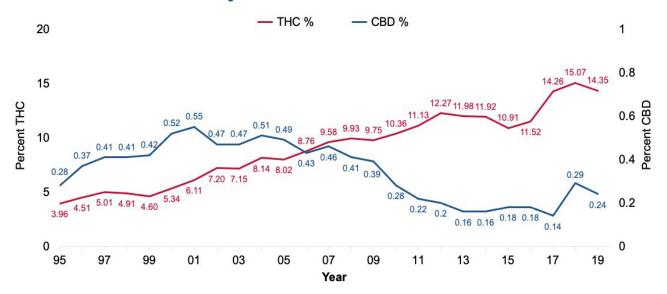
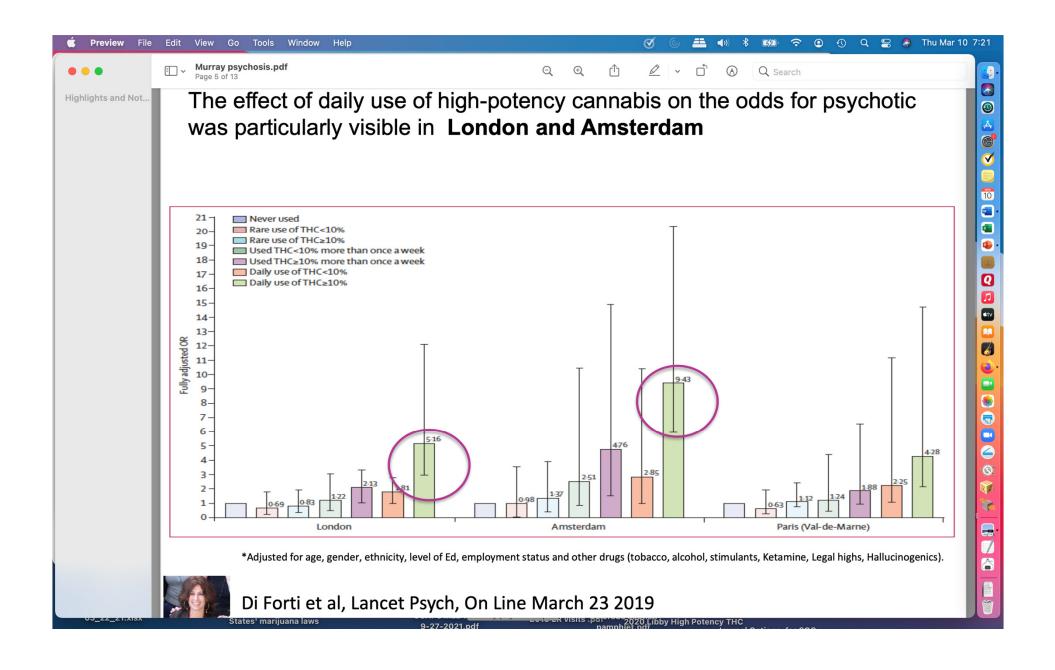
# Cannabis complications and Potency

Eric A. Voth, M.D., F.A.C.P-Internal Medicine, Pain, and Addiction Med President and Chairman of the Board The International Academy on the Science and Impact of Cannabis

## Marijuana Potency

## Percentage of THC and CBD in cannabis samples seized by the DEA from 1995-2019





# Psychiatric and Behavioral Disorders

#### Psych and Behavioral Risk

 Cannabis use disorder is a common comorbidity and risk marker for <u>self-harm</u>, <u>all-cause mortality</u>, <u>and death by unintentional overdose and</u> <u>homicide among youths with mood disorders</u>.

These findings should be considered as states contemplate legalizing medical and recreational marijuana, both of which are associated with increased CUD.

Cynthia A. Fontanella, PhD

JAMA Pediatr. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2020.5494

#### Persistence of Psychosis

- Risk of psychosis -no prior psychosis who used pot, 1.9 times greater that non-users in ave 3.5 years.
- Continued pot use risk of future psychosis was 31% vs 20% in those who did not continue use out to approx 8.5 years.

• BMJ 2011;342: d738

# Psychosis Related to Delta-9-THC

- Presence of psychosis related to percentage of THC
- Threshold appears about 10% THC concentration
- Daily use increased risk

Lancet Psychiatry 2019; 6: 427–36

Published **Online** March 19, 2019

## American Psychiatric Association review of Cannabis 2021

- Need to follow FDA processes
- Underlying Psych disorders present risk
- Can trigger anxiety, depression, suidical ideation, psychosis, dependence.
- Not approved for any medicinal uses
- Use for Opiate use disorder no approved
- Recreational use and medicinal use should be considered separately.

# Suicidal Ideation and Attempts

- 281650 adults aged 18 to 34 years who participated in the National Surveys on Drug Use and Health.
- Cannabis use was associated with higher prevalence of suicidal ideation, plan, and attempt

JAMA Han et al June 22, 2021 1/15

#### Marijuana and Bipolar Illness

- 166 first-episode bipolar I disorder patients.
- Cannabis and alcohol associated with the first episode of mania

Bipolar Disorder 2008;10:738-741

#### Depression

- Depressive responses measured
- Lower doses= Serotonin agonist
- Higher doses= Serotonin suppressant
- Effect was the Medial Prefrontal Cortex

J Neuroscience 2007;27:11700-11711

#### PTSD and Marijuana Use

- 2000 participants in VA treatment programs
- Non-users had significantly less symptoms
- Prior users who quit had less symptoms
- Users had higher levels of violence,
- New users had higher levels of violence and also turned more to other drugs
- Commented: "Most people assume things based on their own experience... People assume that there aren't a lot of risks.....there really are"

Wilkinson
Yale University December 2014
Presented to the AAAP

# Complications of Marijuana Use Cognitive Changes

- Attention
- Concentration
- Decision-making
- Disinhibition
- Impulsivity
- Working memory
- Verbal fluency
- Concept formation and planning

J Addict Med 2011;5:1-8

#### Structural Change on MRI

- 48 marijuana users
- Abnormal Gray Matter volume
- Abnormal Orbitofrontal Cortex
- Part of the reward network of the brain
- Cumulative deleterious effect on OFC

Filbey et al

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences,

2014;111:16913-16918

#### Neuropsychological Decline

- 1037 individuals
- Pot use at 18,21,26,32,38 y/o
- Neuropsych testing at 13 before pot and 38
- Broad Neuropsychological decline across all domains even controlling for education
- 10% (101-91) IQ difference between never and persistent user.
- 6-point IQ decline age 13-38 w/ persistent use

Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2012 Aug 27

#### Sexual Assault/ Victimization

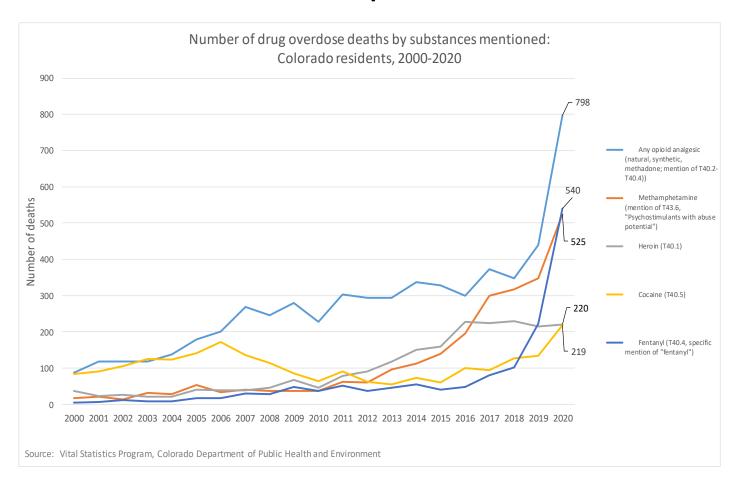
- Alcohol and Marijuana predict violence. Kraanen Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment 46 (2014) 532–539
- Marijuana-associated partner aggression Moore Clinical Psych Review 28 (2008) 247-274
- College Drug Use and Partner Violence
   Nabors Journal of Interpersonal Violence 25(6) 1043–1063
- Dating Aggression by Adolescents

Reyes Journal of Adolescence 37 (2014) 281–289

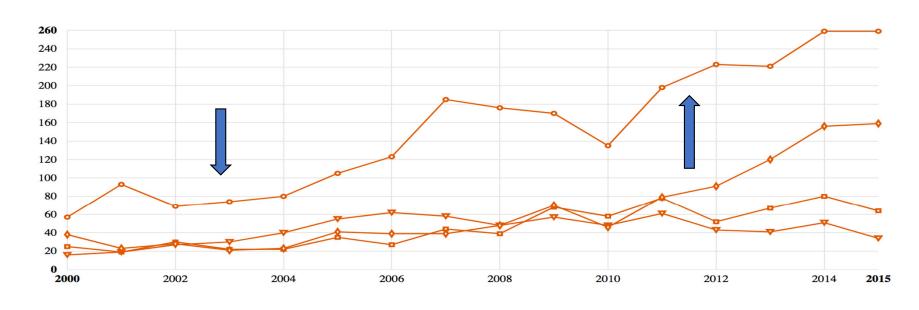
## Unusual Side Effect: Hyperemesis

- Identified as rare in past
- Becoming common
- Miserable
- Must be cannbis-free

### Colorado Opiate Fatalities



#### Colorado



- Natural and Semisynthetic Opioids (e.g. oxycodone, hydrocodone)
- Synthetic Opioids, other than Methadone (e.g. fentanyl, tramadol)
- Methadone

Heroin

Colorado

#### Colorado Overdoses 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020

- Rx Opioid deaths up 8.5%
- Fentanyl Deaths up 47% compared to 2019
- Cocaine up 16%

Colorado DPHE 2020